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Grow your own **TREES** from seeds —



a
**PLANTING
GUIDE**



WOODLOT SEED CO.
NORWAY • MICHIGAN



PLANTING GUIDE *for* TREES

and SHRUB SEED GROWING



Select trees and shrubs that are best suited to your soil and climate. Ask your County Agent, Agricultural Advisor, Soil Conservationist or Forestry Department.

The basic information for this booklet came from the U. S. Lake State Forestry Experiment Station, St. Paul, Minnesota, and the Minnesota Forestry and Horticulture Department. This has been supplemented by years of research and experimentation. Here is highlighted the result of that work, and some of the suggestions that will be helpful to you in deciding the kind of trees or shrubs you want to plant.

The seed bed should be prepared as for onions, on soil which has been in crop the preceding year, working to a depth of about a foot. Remove all sticks, stones, etc. If the soil is heavy use peat or sand with it.

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE

One of the most popular trees. Grown from seed some are a greenish color with a blue tinge. Some are bright blue.

Conifer seeds are often broadcast, though sometimes sown in rows four or five inches apart. Seed of deciduous trees and shrubs (the kinds which lose their leaves over winter) are usually sown in rows ten or twelve inches apart.

After sowing seed water thoroughly at once, and, with small seed, cover to a depth of a quarter of an inch or a little more, with soil that has been sterilized, or with soil dug from near the seed bed and about two feet below the surface. Cover large seeds to about three times their diameter. Some experts advise dusting the seed with Semesan or some other mercuric compound at time of sowing. Some use clean sand and others a mixture of sand or peat.

Cover the seed beds with burlap, and keep the soil moist, not wet, until germination starts. Then remove the burlap. If sowing is late provide a mulch to protect the seedlings. Provide partial shade. This may be brush, or a frame with lath spaced about two inches

apart. During hot muggy weather seedlings sometimes wilt and die. Shade should be removed at such times, and if water is standing over the roots of the seedlings, sand or dirt may be sprinkled over them to remove the excess moisture. If any seedlings do die remove and destroy them at once. Some sprinkle Semesan over the seedlings at such times. Remove shade in early fall to harden seedlings. Keep the mulch until spring. Then remove early.

CONCOLOR FIR

A well shaped and popular tree. One of the most beautiful trees. Some are green, others bluish in color. Suited to ornamental and windbreak planting. Grows rapidly.

CHINESE ELM

SNOW FENCE

In many parts of the country live snow fences are being planted along paths and roads to prevent drifting of snow. And you can grow your own from seed. Use fast growing Chinese Elm, Norway Spruce, and some of the pines, firs and other spruce.

WINDBREAK

Government statistics tell us that a windbreak protecting buildings can reduce fuel bills from twenty-five to forty percent. In these days of rising fuel costs this is an item that might well be considered. Use the same kinds as for snow fence.

STRATIFICATION

You will notice that several of the seeds listed are followed by a star. Sown in the spring it is possible that a few only, or none of these seeds will germinate that season. Left for another year they do better. Because birds and rodents may destroy seeds left in the ground so long it may be well to mix these seeds with moist dirt, sand or peat, and place in a box in a cool dry place during the summer. You might ask your locker man to keep them at temperatures of 33 to 40 over summer. In the fall bury the box outside for the winter and sow seeds in the spring.

JAP YEW

A tree of rich color which it retains thru the year. Can be shaped and trimmed. This tree is rather small, and fits itself to different soil and growing conditions. Will grow in shade or sunlight.

PAPER BIRCH

Is ornamental. Not too difficult to grow. Rapid grower.

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DOUGLAS FIR

Grows well over much of this country. Keeps its lower branches well. In color dark green, and is a rapid grower. An ornamental tree worthy of your attention.

AMERICAN ARBOR VITAE

Green is the color of this tree but there is some variation. Grows well in sunlight, or partial shade. Can easily be trimmed. Is often used as a hedge plant.

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Tips On Planting

MULTIFLORA ROSE

Multiflora Rose seed may be sown in the fall just before cold weather without special treatment; but should be covered with burlap (old gunnysacks will do). This should be removed in the spring as germination starts.

It may also be sown in the spring, early, and without special treatment, using burlap to cover as above. For late spring or early summer this seed should be mixed with sand or dirt and water and frozen in a refrigerator or food locker for twenty four hours, thaw for a like period, and repeat twice, then sow. This is fast stratification.

WHAT OTHERS HAVE DONE

Honey Locust, Black Locust and Red Bud. Pour hot water just under the boiling point over these seeds and let cool. Remove seeds that swell and sow. Repeat for others.

European Larch. Soak in water for one day, then sow.

Douglas Fir. Soak in water for 7 days. Sow.

Birch, Hemlock and Arbor Vitae. Sow in partially rotted sawdust or rotted wood or decomposed leaves. Cover very lightly and be sure to provide partial shade.

DAMPING OFF

Or the loss of seedling either at the time of emergence from soil or later. Sterilization of the soil is of some benefit.

The U. S. Lake States Forestry Experiment Station at St. Paul, Minnesota, washes sand in warm water and then sows seeds in this washed sand. This tends to eliminate most of the trouble. Where limited amounts of such washed sand only are available it might be of some advantage to sprinkle this over the seeds after they have been sown in other soil.

Some secure soil more free from disease than the surface soil by digging to a depth of about two feet to secure soil to be used in sowing seed.

Steam sterilization is used where practicable, and for small quantities of soil, the electric cable. Where these are not used Formaldehyde is quite popular. Four pints or pounds of Formaldehyde (40%) are mixed with 50 gallons of water, applied one gallon to each square foot of soil surface. After application cover with paper or burlap for 48 hours. At end of the period remove cover and allow soil to stand for ten days or two weeks before sowing seed.

For sowing nuts. Take a number 2 can and cut directly across the bottom, and again at right angles. Turn the points of the tin outward just enough so that a seedling can come through; but a mouse cannot enter. Plant the nut and press the can down over it.

Multiflora Rose

THE LIVING FENCE



The living fence. This can be started from seed the first season if the seed is properly conditioned. Tests made last season were very satisfactory. This makes an attractive fence and when once established is a permanent living fence and will, if the thorny kind is used, keep out stock, cattle, horses and hogs. Ornamental with its white roses in summer, red berries in fall or winter.

Conditioning:

To condition Rosa Multiflora mix with dirt or sand and water, and place in your locker or refrigerator. Freeze for twenty-four hours, then thaw for a like time. Repeat twice and sow at once. Or stratify in fall. Firm soil after sowing this and other seeds. This should get very good germination.

Rosa multiflora seedlings should be mulched the first and second year, and when transplanted should be about 12 to 18 inches apart in a row. They should be protected against stock until they have a good start. This can be done with an electric fence or other methods. They will grow faster if cultivated.

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SWISS MOUNTAIN PINE

Mugho Pine

Usually a shrub and a dwarf at that. Is hardy. You won't regret this one.

Paper birch does well when provided with a cover of slightly

rotted hardwood sawdust, and kept partially shaded. The same method is good for hemlock. Using sawdust usually prevents the formation of a crust, and small seedlings have trouble breaking through a crust.

Hardwood seedlings are generally transferred when one year old to their permanent locations. The pines, spruce and firs are often transplanted once or twice to build up a strong root system.

Sprouting of almost any hardcoated seed is sometimes hastened by soaking the seed for several days in cold water. Honey and Black Locust may be covered with water just under the boiling point and left until the seed swells. Repeat for those which do not swell.

U. S. Department of Agriculture Farmer's Bulletin No. 1567 tells about the growing of trees and shrubs. It may be had from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. for ten cents.

With your order will be sent additional
TIPS ON PLANTING.

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